and rejoiced in the fruits of his workmanship. May be there are some who still feel that there is a dignity and fitness in studying the beautiful in science for its own sake even by the untrained, and take the microscope as more than a laboratory tool.

The originality and workmanship of these old instrument-makers are still felt and long will be felt in the industry. European microscopes which till comparatively recently have been of the most primitive types, are gradually changing in design by adoption of many of the original optical and instrumental features of Tolles and his contemporaries, bearing witness to the permanence and soundness of their work.

Mr. Dalton in his later years made most of the repairs on the microscopes and chemical balances of the Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Wellesley College, and in fact of most of the educational institutions in and about the city, his work in this line occasionally taking him as far as Vassar.

Through this business, he had a wide circle of acquaintances and will be missed by many who have looked with pleasure on the coming of the genial little gentleman who with his clear complexion and bright eye looked seventy years young, a man whose scrupulous cleanliness of person but exemplified his own blameless character, a normal man and the highest type of American craftsman.

GEO. W. ROLFE

THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ENTOMOLOGY

THE first International Congress of Entomology, held in Brussels on August 1–6, 1910, was an unqualified success. It was well supported by entomologists of all countries, both theoretical and practical, and also by many governments and institutions, which are at last beginning to realize the profound importance of this science in medicine and in agriculture. The membership was nearly 400, and upwards of 300 actually attended the proceedings. The results of the deliberations are being published in two volumes, the first being devoted to the proceedings and discussions, the second to the numerous memoirs contributed by many authorities upon a great variety of subjects, including papers devoted to pure and to economic entomology. The volume of memoirs (515 pages, 27 plates) is now published and issued to members. The volume of proceedings will follow shortly.

It was decided at the first congress that the second congress should be held in 1912, and the following meetings every three years from that date, so that in future the International Congress of Entomology will be held one year before the International Congress of Zoology. The second congress will therefore be held at Oxford on August 5 to 10, 1912, under the presidency of Professor E. B. Poulton, D.Sc., F.R.S. A reception committee has been formed, consisting of:

Dr. F. A. Dixey, F.R.S. (Chairman).

Professor G. C. Bourne, F.R.S. (Professor of Zoology).

Professor H. L. Bowman, D.Sc. (Secretary to the Delegates of the University Museum).

Professor E. B. Poulton, D.Sc., F.R.S. (President of the Second Congress).

Geoffrey W. Smith, M.A. (Fellow of New College).

Commander J. J. Walker, M.A. (Secretary of the Entomological Society of London).

H. Eltringham, M.A. (Cant.), M.A. (Oxon.), and G. H. Grosvenor, M.A. (Secretaries).

It is hoped that the reception committee will be able to arrange for members of the congress to have rooms in the colleges at a moderate price, but this privilege will be available for gentlemen only. In order to facilitate the arrangements, it is requested that ladies and gentlemen who propose to join and attend the Congress send in their names as early as possible to the general secretary of the executive committee, who will be happy to give any further information. Ordinary members who pay £1 (25 francs) will receive all publications of the congress. Ladies and children accompanying members will, on payment of 10s. (frs. 12.50) each, have all privileges of members except that of receiving the publications. Life members who pay a com-

position of at least £10 (frs. 250), will receive free all future publications of the congress. The funds received in respect of Life Compositions will be invested, and only the interest will be at the disposal of the executive committee. Sir Daniel Morris, D.Sc., and the Hon. N. Charles Rothschild, M.A., F.E.S., have kindly consented to act as trustees of the funds. Members who propose joining the congress, or presenting papers, are requested to address the general secretary of the executive committee, Malcolm Burr, D.Sc., care of Entomological Society of London, 11 Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, London, W.

ANTARCTIC EXPLORATIONS

As every one knows from the daily press the Norwegian explorer, Captain Roald Amundsen, who made the first northwest passage ever accomplished by ship, has added to his laurels by reaching the South Pole. He verifies Shackleton's report that the pole is on an ice-capped plateau more than ten thousand feet above the ocean. Amundsen also discovered ranges of mountains, the peninsularity of King Edward VII. Land, and the origin of the oceanic ice-cap, known as Ross's Barrier. As soon as information as to the extent of the scientific work is received it will receive proper notice from SCIENCE.

Of the highest importance to the standing of American antarctic explorers is the information that the Australian antarctic expedition, in the ship *Aurora,* has verified in a general manner the accuracy of the discoveries of Captain Charles Wilkes, U. S. Navy, in 1840, of the Antarctic Continent. The leader of this expedition was Dr. Douglas Mawson, well-known to the readers of SCIENCE through his location of the South Magnetic Pole, in 72° 24′ S., 155° 16′ E. (SCIENCE, May 10, 1910). Dr. Mawson landed, February 19, on the glaciers of Adelie Land, with a party that remains there during the Antarctic winter. Another party under Dr. White is pursuing its scientific work at Termination Land, where it landed January 18. It is hoped that this confirmation of the reliability of American work will be set clearly before the American people as soon as details are obtainable.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

REAR ADMIRAL GEORGE WALLACE MELVILLE, U.S.N., retired, known for his Arctic explorations and eminent as a mechanical engineer, formerly engineer in chief of the U. S. Navy, died on March 18, aged seventy-one years.

DR. W. H. WILEY has resigned the position of chief of the Bureau of Chemistry of the Department of Agriculture, which he has held since 1883.

AMONG the degrees conferred, on the occasion of the exercises commemorating the one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of the University of Pittsburgh, were the following on men of science: The doctorate of laws on Edgar F. Smith, provost of the University of Pennsylvania; N. L. Britton, director of the New York Botanical Garden, and L. O. Howard, chief of the Bureau of Entomology and permanent secretary of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The doctorate of science on Ira N. Hollis, professor of engineering at Harvard University; C. F. Scott, professor of electrical engineering at Yale University; H. D. Campbell, dean of Washington and Lee University; A. D. Mead, professor of comparative anatomy at Brown University; C. M. Snelling, dean of the University of Georgia; R. K. Duncan, director of the department of industrial research of the University of Pittsburgh; James Ewing, professor of pathology at the Cornell University Medical School, and Milton J. Greenman, director of the Wistar Institute of Anatomy.

THE Smithsonian Institution was represented at the centennial celebration of the founding of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia this week by Dr. Charles D. Walcott, Dr. Richard Rathbun, Dr. Frederick W. True and Dr. Theodore Gill. Dr. Leonhard Stejneger represented the U. S. National Museum, and Mr. F. W. Hodge the Bureau of American Ethnology on this occasion.